decision to direct the bank to settle such outstanding issues soon; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Bank of India has reported that there is no claim pending with them for which they have admitted/ agreed to pay compensation.

(b) According to the Bank M/s. Beneyog who were maintaining C/D Account with their Lindsey Street Branch were offered as a gesture of goodwill an interest @ 5% per annum amounting to Rs. 11043/-. They had refused to accept the same. They had demanded a sum of Rs. 1,25,000/- towards compensation which has not been admitted by the Bank on account of the fact that the credit balance in the account was only Rs. 72,775/-.

(c) This is an operational matter on which Government does not issue directions.

(d) Does not arise.

Issue of Free Air Passes

792. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the categories of persons to whom Free Air Passes are issued;

(b) the number of senior citizens, widows, handicapped, family members of Staff of Indian Airlines to whom Free Air Passes have been issued during 1994-95 till date and the class in which they are entitiled to travel;

(c) whether it is proposed to extend this facility to freedom fighters and ex-Defence personnel also; and

(d) the total cost the Indian Airlines had to bear on this account during the last three years, yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Free passages on Air India and Indian Airlines are allocated to Department of Tourism for being released to travel writters, photographers, tour operators and opinion makers visiting India under their Hospitality programme. Free passages are also issued to persons requiring medical treatment aborad, in consultation with Directorate General of Health Services. Air India and Indian Airlines issue free passages to various categories of persons in the overall commercial and business interest. The employees and their families of Air India and Indian Airlines are issued free passages. Passes issued by other Airlines are also honoured on reciprocal basis. Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism also issues limited number of passes to members of public based on merits of each case.

The senior citizens, widows and handicapped persons are not provided free passages, as a category.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No cost is incurred as free pass holders are generally accommodated only after accommodating revenue paying passengers.

Consultancy Services on Turnkey Basis

793. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY: SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether ITDC is providing consultancy services on turnkey basis for running hotels and restaurants in India and abroad;

(b) whether the management of ITDC is inviting private contractors to run its own restaurants in ITDC hotels itself; and

(c) if so, the details of restaurants in ITDC hotels likely to be given on contract basis in the current financial year and the amount spent by ITDC on the construction and renovation for such restaurants.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM: (SHRI